

## Message Text

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ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PC-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 L-03 H-01 PRS-01 /023 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT: MFWILLIAMS/RPMYERS/NWH

APPROVED BY M/CT: JEKARKASHIAN

ARA/AND - FRANK DEVINE (SUBS)

ARA/AND - DAVID COX (DRAFT)

PEACE CORPS - FRED HANSEN (SUBS)

PEACE CORPS - MR. J. CAULEY (SUBS)

-----161957Z 065003 /61

R 161731Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058401

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, CO

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF PCV STARR

1. STARR'S MOTHER, MRS. CHARLOTTE JENSEN, VISITED WASHINGTON MARCH 8-9 TO MEET WITH PEACE CORPS AND DEPARTMENT REPS. SHE VOICED HER DESIRE THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE BE DONE FOR HER SON'S SAFE RETURN. IN PARTICULAR, SHE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER A POSSIBLE GOC ATTEMPT TO FREE RICHARD BY MILITARY FORCE WHICH COULD ENDANGER HIS LIFE. WE ASSURED MRS. JENSEN THAT GOC WAS UNLIKELY TO ENGAGE IN ANY SUCH MILITARY OPERATION. (COMMENT: WE WOULD WELCOME ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH EMBASSY MIGHT HAVE ON QUESTION OF GOC MILITARY INTENTIONS WHICH MIGHT FURTHER ALLAY MRS. JENSEN'S CONCERNS ON THIS POINT. END COMMENT). FOLLOWING THE MEETINGS, MRS. JENSEN APPEARED TO BE REASSURED AND RESIGNED TO WAITING UNTIL SOME WORD IS RECEIVED  
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FROM THE KIDNAPPERS.

2. MRS. JENSEN INDICATED SHE HAS NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO TRAVEL TO BOGOTA. FOR TIME BEING, SHE WILL NOT RETURN TO SEATTLE, BUT WILL STAY IN BALTIMORE WITH A SISTER IN ORDER TO REMAIN IN CLOSER TOUCH WITH DEPARTMENT AND PEACE CORPS.

3. MRS. JENSEN HAS PUT TOGETHER A SMALL KNAPSACK

CONTAINING PERSONAL ITEMS, SUCH AS RAINCOAT, ASPIRIN, BLANKET, ETC., FOR RICHARD. SHE INTENDS TO PRESENT IT TO AMERICAN RED CROSS THIS WEEK AND ASK ARC TO FORWARD IT TO COLOMBIAN RED CROSS FOR DELIVERY TO RICHARD VIA CHANNEL WHICH IT DEEMS MOST APPROPRIATE. KNAPSACK WILL ALSO CONTAIN A LETTER FROM MRS. JENSEN EXPRESSING HER CONCERN FOR RICHARD'S HEALTH AND SAFETY. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT SHE MAKE POSITIVE REFERENCE TO HIS CAPTOR'S REPUTATION FOR TREATING THEIR CAPTIVES WELL AND THAT SHE EXPRESS HOPE THAT, ONCE THEY COME TO KNOW STARR, THEY WILL APPRECIATE FACT THAT HE IS SERIOUS SCIENTIST IN SERVICE TO COLOMBIAN PEOPLE AND THEREFORE WILL RELEASE HIM. WE HAVE ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT LETTER MAKE NO REFERENCE TO ANY ORGANIZATION (I.E. PEACE CORPS, SMITHSONIAN, USG, ETC) AND THAT MRS. JENSEN IN NO WAY INDICATE THAT SHE IS IN CONTACT WITH US.

4. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THIS EFFORT WILL HAVE DUAL IMPACT OF GIVING MRS. JENSEN A USEFUL OUTLET FOR HER OWN CONCERN VIS-A-VIS HER SON'S WELFARE, WHILE AT SAME TIME POSSIBLY OPENING UP A CHANNEL FOR HUMANITARIAN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HER AND HER SON.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** KIDNAPPING OF PCV STARR  
**TAGS:** PINS, ASEC, CASC, CO, PC, (STARR, RICHARD CHARLES), (JENSEN, CHARLOTTE)  
**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
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